

Docket No.: Englis.A-02

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A wave making apparatus positioned off-shore from a shoreline of a sea, the apparatus comprising: a shallow draft vessel floating in the sea and presenting one side of the vessel parallel to the shoreline; interior to the vessel, a water tank having an open top defined by spaced apart tank sidewalls, one of the sidewalls, along the one side of the vessel providing a rim positioned below the other of the sidewalls of the tank and substantially above a surface of the sea; a pump engaged with the tank enabling pumping of sea water into the tank; the tank further providing a means for lifting the water in the tank to the open top thereby spilling the water over the one sidewall so that the water falls exterior to the one side of the vessel; and a curved platform engaged with and extending outwardly from the one side of the vessel, the platform submerged and positioned for receiving the water falling from the tank so as to thereby create a wave moving away from the one side of the vessel toward the shoreline and suitable for surfing.
- 10 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the water lifting means is a platform mounted on a hydraulic actuator, the platform movable from a position at a bottom of the tank to a position substantially adjacent the rim of the one sidewall of the tank.
- 15 3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the sidewalls of the tank are vertical and the platform is sealed against the sidewalls of the tank by a means for sealing.
- 20 4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the sealing means is a gasket.
- 25 5. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a thrusting means engaged with the vessel in a position for stabilizing the vessel during discharge of water from the tank.

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6. A wave making method comprising the steps of: positioning an unmoored shallow draft vessel offshore from a shoreline of a sea in a position whereby one side of the vessel is in parallel to the shoreline; pumping sea water into a tank interior to the vessel, lifting the water in the tank to a rim of a side of the tank nearest to the shoreline to thereby dump the water in the tank over a side of the vessel nearest to the shoreline; directing the water from the tank outwardly from the vessel with a curved platform engaged with and extending outwardly from the one side of the vessel, the platform substantially submerged and positioned for receiving the water falling from the tank; thereby creating a wave moving away from the one side of the vessel toward the shoreline and suitable for surfing.
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7. The method of claim 1 wherein the water is lifted hydraulically to the rim of the tank using a lifting platform.
- 15 8. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of thrusting against a force of the water using a counter thrusting means at the time the water is discharged from the tank.